FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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WASHINGTON, D. C.	1/4/43	1/1-2-/13	WILLIAM J. BERWA	NGE21 WJB:GW
TITLE O			Cristination or cold	
Norman T. Whit!	KER, with alias Neil Williamson	i, The Fox	APPLICATION FOR RESTORE CIVIL R	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:			ires restoration	ni
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			oney paid to GASTON	1 and
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EFERENCE.	(Refer: "6")		* ,*	
		oial Agent T.	H. MORGAN dated 8/1	1,12
	at Washington			100
	Report of Spe	cial Agent HYR	UM T. CALLISTER, da	ted
	12/2/42 at No	w York, New Yo	rk.	04
			41 /97	1-7984
TAILS:	AT WASHINGTON	D. C.	11 "	
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Applicant's Reasons for Application

The applicant stated that the reason for his filing of the application to regain his Civil Rights was that he wanted to obtain work; that he had been unable to do because of his convictions and had been given some encouragement that he would be employed if his rights were reotored. Upon being asked in which coversment office he expected to work, applicant replied that because of his long experience as a putent lawyer and his previous work in the Patent Office, he thought that the latter would hire him. He added that he might also obtain a position in the War Department or in the Office of the Alien Property Custodian who wanted patent men at this time. He added that he has the degrees in patents and had a large patent law practice from 1915 to 1921; when he was disbarred. He stated that he had friends in Government positions whom he believed would help him, and he also stated that if his Civil Rights were restored, he believed the Bar Association would lift his disbarment. Regardless of the latter, however, he believes that he can obtain a Government position, which is what he wants, and that he has no desire to return to the practice of laws

As a further reason for his application, applicant cited the fact that his wife, who was formerly employed by the Department of Interior, was near death from a cancer ailment; that he took her to Memorial Hospital in New York on Labor Day, and that the doctors there gave her two months to live, after examining her and stated that they could do nothing for her. Applicant added that his wife had been faithful to him through all of his trouble, and he hoped that his rights would be restored before her death, which he said might be a matter of days.

Furthermore, applicant stated that he has shown by his life during the six years since his release from prison that his intentions are good, and having paid his debt to society, his rights should be restored.

Applicant's employment and activities since Release

applicant admitted that he has had no regular employment since his release in 1937 and gave his record as a reason for this predicament. When asked whether he had made an effort to locate employment, he answered in the affirmative, but the only place he maned was the U.S. Fatent Office, where, as heretofore stated, he was told that he might be given some consideration if his rights were restored.

He did some work for his brother, RCLAND T. WHITAKER, formerly a patent attorney in Washington, with whom he formerly practiced law before his disbarment. The work done for his brother was on patent cases, and he received no specific salary therefrom.

In addition to this, applicant stated that he has made collections for his brother-in-law, Dr. J. E. HEGARTY, Dentist, 3204 M Street, N. W. He added that his remuneration in this capacity was a percentage of the collections made and did not amount to much. He also stated that he prepared the pleadings and made several trips to Boston, Massachusetts in Dr. HEGARTY's action there to recover his share of an inheritance. For this applicant received only his expenses, but expects to be paid in the event the suit is successful. Other than the above, applicant admits that he has done no other work and has lived on the earnings of his wife, who made \$2700 per year as Head of the Docket and Record Department in the Department of Interior. Because of her health, however, she was forced to quit work in June, 1912 and recently he has been obtaining some financial assistance from Dr. HEGARTY and from OSCAR A. BERGREN, Assistant Solicitor of the Department of Interior who is a close friend. In response to an inquiry as to how he spent his time during the six years since his release applicant stated that shortly after he was set free, he instituted 25 libel cases against various persons and newspapers in Washington and New York, and that this took a lot of his time for several years. He added that he was successful in all but the two cases which went to trial. By successful, he added he meant that he settled each of the others for a few hundred dollars, which amounts went to the attorney which the Court appointed for him. He stated further that he did not expect to make any money out of said actions but merely instituted same so that his name would be cleared and "to get the newspapers off me", and that this has been accomplished. Applicant further advised that he and his wife made several

trips to New York to see Mrs. WHITAKER's sister, BLANCHE PEDISICH, who lives on Long Island. In March of 1942 he took his wife to Florida for several weeks in the hope of rebuilding her health. Other than this, he stated. he has done no traveling.

When asked whether he knew H. HLI COLLSMITH (referred to in. reference report of Special Agent CALLISTER, as SOLDSTELE or COLDEREG), applicant explained that GOLDSWITH permitted him to use his office facilities and stemographers for preparing motions, et cetera in connection with the litigation in New York referred to above. He added that he paid GOLDSMITH's stemographers for the work done, and had no connection with COLDSMITH's business, which he understands was directed towards aiding Jewish refugees in soming to America. He stated that he originally met GOLDSKITH through his wife who knew him through mutual friends, and that many years ago his brother, ROLAND WHITAFER, did some legal work for him. He added that he

has not seen GOLDENITH for several years and heard that he is now in the penitentiary.

Applicant admitted that he has spent most of his time, other than that above accounted for, in reading, attending motion pictures, and in caring for his wife who needs help constantly and they cannot hire a nurse because of their financial condition.

Applicant's Version of His Convictions

When asked about his feelings with respect to his conviction with GASTON B. MEANS, for conspiracy in an attempt to commit larceny of \$35,000 from Mrs. EVALYN WALSH McLEAN, in connection with the LINDHERCH Kidnapping Case, applicant stated that he received no money and never expeoted to receive any in the transactions with MEANS and Mrs. Welfall, and that he was entirely free from any criminal intent. He added that he knew PANS since 1924, before he went to Atlanta, and in 1930-31 knew him in Hew York, and that when MEANS came to him and proposed the contacts with Mrs. Molean he thought that HANS was her duly authorized agent, and that he could help recover the LINDBERGE baby. At the time applicant stated that he was at large on bond, pending an appeal of his conviction in Florida for violation of the Dyer Act, and believed that if he could assist in recovering the beby he might be pardoned for that offense, for which he subsequently served time. He also admitted that he had in mind his possible participation in the numerous remards which were offered for the safe return of the baby. told him that these were also his motives and remarked. We will both get pardons and come out shead."

Applicant denied that he knew MEANS received \$100,000 from Mrs. McLEAN until after MEANS was arrested and tried, and stated that he never asked Mrs. McLEAN for \$35,000 or any other amount, although he did admit representing himself to her in Akron, South Carolina and El Paso, Texas as the head of the kidnappers, and stated to her that he had held the baby in his arms within 16 hours. This was all done, he added, in strict compliance with MEANS orders, who told him exactly what to say at both meetings, neither of which lasted over ten minutes, and at one time bawling him out for saying something that he was not supposed to say. He further stated that he had had implicit faith in MEANS, and that he thought, and thinks to this day, that MEANS knew something about the kidnapping and where the baby was located. He repeated several times that he thought MEANS could recover the baby, and believes he; the applicant, would do the same thing again under like circumstances.

As proof that he did not ask Mrs. McLRAN for \$35,000 he cited the fact that this money was supposed to be advanced by her to redeem \$50,000 which was paid to unknown persons by dropping same over a wall on April 2, 1932, whereas applicant's contacts with Mrs. McLRAN were prior to that date.

Applicant then spoke on the injustice in his conviction from a legal standpoint, stating that no overt act was committed in the District of Columbia, and that the District of Columbia Courts had no jurisdiction of the case, and under the circumstances he stated the states of South Carolina or Texas may have had a case, but he added hastily that he had no criminal intent in his actions any where. With respect to his conviction he stated "Anyone would have been convicted by being associated with NEARS".

The applicant, when asked about his other convictions, prior to the MEANS Case, stated that they were probably due to the wild life which he was leading and to his lack of responsibility. He would not elaborate on what he meant by wild life, but stated that he was making plenty of money practicing law, had everything he wanted, and was traveling around with a fast crowd who spent a lot of money, enjoyed themselves, and had no responsibilities, adding that he was not married at that time. He recounted that in 1927 he won the National Chess Championship at Kalamasoe, Michigan, and as a honeymoon in 1928 he went to France to participate in the Olympic Chess Championship.

In response to a question as to whether he was guilty of the crimes for which he was convicted, applicant answered evasively and again referred to the fact that he had no responsibilities at that time.

Referring again to the MEANS case, applicant said that he has some ideas about where the money paid to MEANS by has. Helean might be located; that shortly after his release from prison he approached her in this connection and she told him to draw up an agreement whereby he would receive part of the money if he located same. Said agreement was prepared and forwarded to her, but he never heard any more about it and believes that she turned it over to her attorneys, who in turn gave it to the Department of Justice. He did not press the matter in deference to his wife's wishes, but stated that when his wife dies he intends to see if he can locate the money.

Residences & Associates

Applicant advised that he has resided at only two addresses since his release from prison which are as follows: 1900 F Street, N. W., from January 1, 1937 to September, 1939, and at 505 18th Street, N. W., from September, 1939 to the present. When his wife dies, applicant stated that he expects to live with OSSAR A. REROREW.

He stated that his present living quarters were very modest, and that his rent of \$50 per month was the lowest rent paid by anyone in the building.

His associates during the past few years have been very few, he stated, having spent most of his time with his wife, Mr. HEREN, and

the HAGERTYS. Judge MARCOLD, formerly his wife's superior in the Interior Department, is a friend of his, he added, who will assist him in obtaining employment. He has played chess occasionally with the above mentioned people, and a few others, but has not competed in any tournements since his release from prison.

He admitted his present financial position is bad, stating that he owes approximately \$300, chiefly to doctors, in addition to the amounts advanced to him by Dr. HACERTY and HERGREN, of which he has kept no record.

	of age, who resides at
	and who is employed in
┫	stated that he met applicant through
politics before coming to Washi was a chess player, Mrs. EVERENT to Washington, stating that he has seen subject approximately at social gatherings and in plant social gatherings and in plant the applicant made any substant the applicant. and cducational background, stand cducational background, stand that if he did not believe with him. Applicant, he added lot of time with her. In responsible time, advised that and sometimes attends court tri Having made many visits to applies very modest and almost shall	re York, with whom he had been associated in ington three years ago. Enowing that he ington three years ago. Enowing that he ing to the him to contact applicant when he got was a chess player. I stated that he one time a month for three years, chiefly lying chess. On several occasions he is at Laurel, Maryland, but neither he nor ital wagers. At one time he borrowed \$5 from ously impressed by applicant's chess ability at that he knows of applicant's past record he was sincerely reformed he would not associate is very devoted to his wife, and spends a onse to a question as to how applicant spends he goes to most of the motion pictures als, in addition to doing a lot of reading. Icant's apartment, stated that it by, and that applicant's car is so bad that ort, he said everything points to applicant's
who is employed by	made amade a sant de s
	im only 6 or 8 times.
Ist 10% ha	stated that applicant loaned him \$40 to
buy s oar, which was paid hack	the following months He had no opinion on
applicant's sincerity or his ac	tivities for the past few years.

The following description of applicant was obtained through observation and interrogation:

Age: 52; Sorn: April 9, 1890, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Hife: BRATRICE 1, WITAKER, 36 years of age.

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Height: 5' 9

Eair: Closely cropped, gray, partly bald.

Eyes: Blue, wears flaces

Peculiarities: Talks very rapidly.

- CLOSED -

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT WAS	HINGTON		M LIFE	···· 78-1253
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HEW YORK, HEW YORK	12/3/42	13/42.		and the second s
HOMAN T. WHITAK Weil Williams. Weil Williamson, "The Fox".	IR, with alies		APPLICATION OF CASE	FOR PARIOU TO FIL RIGHTS.
di po se of vi U. of ci ag De to	MANS: insists What insists what insists what insists who is applicant of GOLDSTRIN or Good of bringings. Applications. Application will rights so to an appearant of Just appearant of Just appearant what	ich quicks and wa HITAKER brilliant adamentally hones in 1938 or 1939 KOLPHERS who was in person from Guitefeit visa or sount desires restout that he can practice believes application and should his her he plans to a yer to aid crimin	, cultured, t. Admits in company later com- ca to the ce similar ration of ice law int hates is questioned of himself	
EFFERENCE: Rep	ort of Special	U C - Agent T. H. MORG at Washington, D.	AN dated	984
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1831 NST by repo	orting agent at	EVERETT was conta ; 52 Grammercy Park	c at the loom	ı
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NY 73-1253 that at the time the applicant had already graduated from the University of Pennsylvania where he had been a Belta Theta Chi and a member of the Phi Beta Eappe. She advised that the applicant had continued his studies and had graduated from Heidelberg and Oxford Universities, and had associated with a diplomatic and political crowd in Yashington, D. C. She stated that she comsidered the applicant a man of extraordinary culture and intelligence, and added that "he was a men without vice", explaining that she meant that he did not drink or become involved with women, and aside from the offence of which he was convicted was apparently a perfect gentlemen. Mrs. NYERTIT advised that she saw the applicant frequently from 1914 to 1918, particularly as her brother was very friendly with him during that period, but she sew little of him from 1918 to 1938 when she met him socidentally after which she saw him frequently from 1938 to 1941, but she has not seen him since that time. Mrs. EVERETY stated that the applicant's wife is office manager for the Legal Division of the Department of the Interior under EATHAM MARGOLD and is apparently unbalanced as a result of the difficulties Mr. WHITAKER has been involved in. Mrs. EVERETT stated that WHITAKER had been employed part-time by his brother-in-law Dr. HAGERTY whose offices are at 3204 M Street, M.W., Washington, D. C.; this work consisted in helping to collect tills and obtain patients. Mrs. WYRRETT also believes that the applicant prepares papers for some legal firms in Washington, D.C., although she could cite no specific instances, end admitted that she was unable to prove that this was so. She stated however, that there was no question but that WHITAKER lived on the income of his wife. She stated that in discussing this matter with Mr. WHITAKER she had learned that he desired the return of his civil rights so that he could return to the practice of law. She further stated that he is very bitter toward the Department of Justice, and claims that he is just on the point of preving that GASTON B. MEANS was behind the Lindbergh kidnaping and surder. In Movember of 1938 Mrs. EVERETT caw WHITAKER in the company of a Mr. GOLDSTEIN or GOLDBERG at the office of the Secretary of State. A few weeks later GOLDSTRIE or GOLDBERS was convicted of siding people to enter this country illegally from Cube by use of counterfait viens or some similar offense. She did not know whether WHITAKER was involved. Mrs. EVERETT pointed out that she believed WHITAKER should have his civil rights restored for the following rescons: 1. He can be a useful citizen if allowed to return to his place in society. 2. His wife has been very loyal through all the difficulty end has at no time considered a divorce, and should therefore receive some consideration in this matter.

3. When a man has paid his debt to secrety and has preven that he can go straight he should be given an opportunity.

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Mrs. EVERETT was questioned regarding the applicant's desire to return to the practice of law, and she stated that in her epinion he should be questioned to ascertain whether or not be considers practising criminal law particularly defending criminals in view of the fact that he dislikes the Department of Justice and was dissatisfied with the dispensation of justice in general.

Mrs. EVERETT advised that	and
the past several years and should be able to personal hebits and conduct. She stated the the applicant had become involved in his past. HEARS had duped him with ideas of "gattithet the applicant is fundamentally honest.	preced difficulties was that GASTON ag rich wickly". It was her belief

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73-7984

Date:

December 9, 1942

To:

Sac, Washington

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:

NORMAN T. WHITAKER, with aliance; APPLICATION FOR PARDON TO RESTORE CIVIL RIGHTS

* reflecting & complete interview with the applicant. The new lork Office should make an effort to complete the investigation

Film decroffice within five days.

es Yes Terr

Mr. Toison

Mr. Glavin_____

Mr. Nichols_

Mr. Carson____

Mr. Hendon____

Mr. Coffey___

Mr. Kramer___ Mr. McGuire__

Mr. Nease___

Miss Beahm____ Miss Gandy____

Tele. Room____

Mr. Rosen___ Mr. Tracy___



Federal Bureau of Investigation United States Department of Instice Washington, D. C.

RYS:307

November 30, 1942

73-7984

Time 2:00 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROSEN

RE: NORMAN T. WHITAKER, with aliases; APPLICATION FOR FARMON TO REPTORE CIVIL RIGHTS

At this time Daniel W. Lyons, the Pardon Attorney, contacted the writer and requested an interview with the applicant. We stated this applicant was involved in the Evalyn Walsh McLean swinile by Gaston Means, and he wanted the investigation completed as soon as possible. We was informed this would be done.

A letter has been directed to the Washington Field Office and the New York Office expediting investigation in this case.

Respectfully,

travell & wouth

Roswell F. Smith

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D. C	11-10-42	11-7-42	T. H. MORGA	u thy, les
NORMAN T. WHI Neil Williams	TAKER, with alias, Neil Williamson	18	APPLICATION RESTORE CIT	FOR PARDON TO
Synopsis of Facts: Cri Bur	minal record of seasof Investigat	ibject as reflicion set forth.	ected by Fede	oral
		² P. •	*. , *	***
REFERENCE: Rep	ort of Special Ag	ent T. H. MORG	AN, dated Au	gust 14, 1942,
DETAILS: AT	MASHINGTON, D. C.			*
	files of the Fed al record on NORM Name and Number	AN T. WHITAKER	ted or	on reflected the
USP, Leavenworth Kansas	, Norman Whitak	er 5-10-	24 Dyer	Act 2 yrs *rel. on appeal - judgmen affirmed and ret disch. 1-30-27
PD. St. Petersbu	rg, Norman P. Whi	taker 12-17	-29 Inv.	rel. to USM 12-19-29, *3-4-32 sent. to 3 yrs i Atlanta Pen. unexec. as defendant appld.
APPROVED AND FORWARDED	TO ME CHANGE	73 1	DO NOT WRITE IN TH	BES SPACED STATE
3 Bureau	Washington A	274		RBOORDED

	" All and a second			
PD, Pleasantville, N.J.	Norman P. Whitaker,	12-4-30	Mal. fraud	forf. \$300 bail
PD, New York, N.Y.	Norman Whitaker	6-28-32	fug G.L. Wash., D.C.	6-28-32 ret'd. to Wash., D.C.
D. C. Jail Washington, D.C.	Horman T. Whiteker	7-2-32	37 US Penal Code	recog. taken & turned over to Marshal 11-28-32 #del. to Atlants Pen 9-8-34.
D.C. Jail Washington, D.C.	Horman T. Whitaker #12852-33	3-27- 33		6-10-33 case dism. for went of pros. on fug- chg.; nolle pros 6-15-33 on chg. of vio. of Sec. 37 US Penal Cod
*	#0080 D.C. Jail 5-2 by exp. August 1934 Ga.	6-33, consp.t and taken in	o commit G.L.; to custody by	18 mos. disch. USP, Atlanta,
USP, Atlanta, Ga.	Norman T. Whitaker	9-8-34	viol. NMVA	3 yrs, 11-6-34 out on writ of to U.S. Ct. Atlanta, Ga. in custody USP Guz
USP, Alcatraz, Calif.	Norman T. Whitaker #230-AZ	2-3-35 in trans. from USP, Atlanta, Ga.	vio. NWVA	3 yrs.; 12-29-3 disch.
*	Admits: December 1 Dyer Act; 3 yrs. Le As Norman F. Whitak A-29-31, nolle pros \$2852-33, D. C. Ja for return to Fla.	evenworth, seer, Bu. of Icosed. (may be	mtence now on lent., Maye Lan identical).	appear. ding, N.J.,

Additional aliases: Neil Williams, "The Fox", Neil Williamso.

CC-Bu. Field Div. The above individual is identical with NORMAN T. WHITAKER, subject of your letter dated August 13, 1942.

RE: NORMAN T. WHITAKER, Was.

RESTORATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS

FBI NUMBER: 248508

(* Represents notations unsupported by fingerprints in FBI files.)

WHITAKER will not be interviewed by the Washington Field Office until the completion of the investigation requested of the New York Field Division, unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau.

PENDING

UNDEVILOPED LEADS

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.:

will interview the applicant concerning his Application for Pardon to Restore Civil Rights.

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION:

AT NEW YORK CITY:

At 18 Gramercy Park, will contact EVELYN CLAY in connection with an affidavit of character made by her in connection with an Application to Restore Civil Rights made by NORMAN T. WHITAKER in September, 1939, which affidavit accompanied WHITAKER'S application at that time.

RESINA

Date: October 23, 1941

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SAC. Santington

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:

NORMAN T. WHITAKER, with allaces APPLICATION FOR PARDON TO RESTORE GIVEL HIGHYS

Mr. Clage The Investigation of this ease.

Mr. Ledd You are instructed therefore to place this case in a preferred lir. Nichols states and complete the presiding investigation in the imagination future.

Mr. Tracy MAILED12

Mr. Carson Ar Cottes Ar P.M.

Mr. Kramer FEDERAL BUHEAU OF INVESTIGATION
Mr. McGuiry U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Mr. Quinn Tames

Mr. Nease Miss Gaudy

Mr. Tolson

LV

RAS

RESIMP 73-7984-2 10-23-42

PATH

THE REAL PROPERTY.

APPLICATION FOR PROPER TO MESSONE CIVIL SCHOOLS

In admosfedgment of your monormatur of Databay 16, 1965, I wish to educate that every offers will be made to ecoplate the limit restigation of this case in the immediate fathers.

Your train yours,

John Rigar Hoover Mirector

W.S. W.O. G. M. 258

Mr.	C1088
Mr.	Glavis
Mr.	Ladd
Mr.	Nichels
₩r.	Rose
Mr.	T. COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
Mr.	GATON MALLED 8
Mr.	Coller
Mr.	H. OCI 241942 P.M.
	Kromer
	M . D W STEW PAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
	Q AN BOOMPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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63-192-Whiteker INL: MRM

Department of Justice Washington

October 16, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FEDERAL SUREAU OF INVESTIGATION:

In re: Horman T. Whitaker, Applicant for Parton to Restore Civil Rights.

This case originated in Washington, D. C., where it is numbered 73-591. It was submitted by the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia on March 11, 1942, to the Washington Field Office. The undeveloped leads set out in the Washington Field Office report dated April 14, 1942, are an interview in New York City with Evelyn Clay Everett and an interview with the applicant at Washington, D. C.

As it will be necessary to refer this case to the United States attorney for the Southern District of Figure fore final action is taken, it would be appreciated if the pending investigation could be brought to a speedy conclusion in order that we may give the United States Attorney the benefit of the reports.

Daniel W. Lyons, Fardon Attorney.

RICHIDID

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

PRENO. 73-591 THIS CASE OF GRATED AT WASHINGTON, D. C. WASHINGTON, D. C. 8/14/42 T. H. MORGAN THE MEC TITLE WHITAKER with aliases: Neil APPLICATION FOR PARDON TO Neil Williamson, "Refrox" RESTORE CIVIL RIGHTS References who signed affidavits are not enthusiastic about the worthiness and general dependability of

applicant, with exception of a relative by marriage. However, mone of references pointed out any derogator; information reflecting upon applicant's character or integrity since his release from prison. His personal friends and associates appear to be quite limited and satisfactory. Investigation indicates applicant has led a respectable life since he was last released from Federal Prison in 1936. Neighborhood investigation favorable. Credit record since 1932 satisfactory. applicant has sued various newspapers and individuals for libel within the last five wars, but in each instance judgment was for defendant. No criminal violations, Washington, D. C., since 1932; however, applicant has been warned on several occasions since 1936 for minor traffic violations.

DETAILS:

AT WASHINGTON. D. C.

This investigation is predicated upon a letter dated March 11, 1942, from United States Attorney EDWARD M. CURRAN to the Washington Field Office, to the effect that his office is in receipt of an Application for Pardon to Restore Civil Rights filed by one NORMAN T. WHITAKER, and requesting that an appropriate investigation be conducted

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APPROVED AND AND TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER	DO NOT WIRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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1 - USA Washington, D. C. Caro		

concerning WHITAKER for the purpose of determining whether his civil rights should be restored.

This investigation was conducted jointly by Special Agents RICHARD SHAW, C. F. SELFRIDGE, JR., and H. L. LISLE.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent SHAW:

NORMAN T. WHITAKER, 505 18th St., N. W., made application for the restoration of his civil rights on September 15, 1939, according to information obtained from Mr. J. J. O'LEARY, clerk in the United States ittorney's Office. The application was accompanied by WHITAKER's own affidavit and the affidavits of five character references. The names of the five character references are as follows:

HOWARD LLOYD, 6107 Broad Branch Road, Mashington, D. C.; J. D. DAMIAN, 2700 Que Street, N. W., (physician - has known WHITAKER five and a half years) Washington, D. C.;

Dr. JOHN E. HEGARTY, 1611 31st Street, N. W., Apt. 207 - business address 3204 M Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.;

USIAR A. HERCREN, 1354 Farkwood Place, N. W., Washington, D. C. - occupation in 1939, Assistant Solicitor, Department of Interior - has known WHITAKER six years;

EVELYN CLAY SWIFT, 18 Gramercy Park, New York City - occupation, writer - has known MIITAKER twenty-eight years.

A brief history of WHITAKER can be found in this report under the heading "Credit Record and Information." A few additional facts are as follows:

MHITAKER was convicted in the District Court for the District of Columbia for the crime of conspiracy with GASTON B. WEANS, ET AL, in attempt to commit larcent of \$35,000. MEANS was convicted for larcent of \$100,000 from Mrs. EVALYN WALSH McLEAN. WHITAKER was sentenced to 18 months in the Washington Asylum and Jail. While there he also served time for conviction under the Dyer Act, having been convicted in the Louthern District Court of Florida in March, 1932. He served time in Alcatraz for violation of the National Meter Vehicle Theft Act, having been sentenced in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California in April, 1924. Washington Field Office file 26-1950-111 reflects that MITAKER was found guilty on a charge of violating the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act and was on March 4, 1932, sentenced to three years in the United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia, having been tried at Tampa, Florida, on March 3, 1932.

WHITAKER was listed in Who's Who for a number of years. He is approximate 52 years of age, married, and has no children. His wife's name is DOROTHY V. D. WHITAKER. WHITAKER was once nationally known as a chess player.

Agent SHAW interviewed HOWARD LLOYD at his home, 6107 Bread Branch Road, N. W. Mr. LLOYD, 75, was once engage: in the bond and investment business as well as insurance. He has been retired for over fifteen years. Mr. LLOYD advised that he first met WHITAKER in 1920, and between that year and 1930 saw him quite frequently. He stated malTAKER at one time practiced patent law at 920 F St., N. W., and that he, LLOYD, once rented some office space from WHITAKER in 1920. ILOYD was conducting his business in the same office building and was in and out of MHITAKER's office frequently. Altho LLOYD made affidavit in WHITAKER's behalf in September, 1939, in support of WHITAKER's application, he admitted he had not seen the applicant in the past two years. LLOYD was of the opinion that WHITAKER's "character is better than his reputation" and that applicant had suffered injustices in connection with his trial for conspiracy to defraud Ers. EVALYN WALSH MCLEAR of \$100,000 together with GASTON B. MEANS, who had promised to find the kidnaped LINDERROH baby. LLOYD did not specify just what injustices he referred to. He stated that in the past five or six years he has "bumped into" WHITAKER on the street, but that he has never been in WHITAMER's home nor has the latter visited him in his home.

Mr. LLOYD stated he does not know what "HITAKER has been doing since his last release from prison in 1936, nor does he know where he has been employed. He stated he believes his wife is probably supporting applicant as she has had a job with the U. S. Department of Interior. LLOYD informed the agent that so far as he knows WHITAKER has been behaving since 1936 and has no unsavory associates. He was unable to furnish any definite information about the present habits or associates of WHITAKER. After stating that he supposed WHITAKER had been respectable during the last five or six years, he said that for all he knows "WHITAKER may have committed murder in the past two years" but that he does not think so. Later in the interview he remarked that MHITAKER was "guilty as hell in the MEANS case." According to LLOTD, WHITAKER is undoubtedly a loyal American. He offered as his reason for making affidavit in WHITAKER's behalf that he sincerely believes the latter has rehabilitated himself and is "going straight." He said that over the years he has cashed checks for MAITAKER and loaned him small amounts of \$40 or \$50, and that the checks were always good and WHITAKER had always repaid the loans promptly.

Dr. JOHN A. HEMARTY, a dentist with offices at 3204 M Street, N. A., stated in his affidavit that he had known MHITAKER eighteen years as of September, 1939, which would make theirs a twenty-one year acquaintance to date. He advised that he had married MHITAKER's sister DOROTHY six years ago and has seen WHITAKER at least once a week during the past six years. He related, upon interview, that he has occasionally given WHITAKER small bills to collect for him and that he has found applicant to be reliable in these matters. According to Dr. HEMARTY, since WHITAKER's release from prison he has not done much and his wife has had to support the two of them for the most part; however, she is not now working but is seriously ill, having recently had an operation

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for cancer. Dr. HEGARTY stated he believes WHITAKER and his wife are in very difficult financial straits, inexamen as Mrs. WHITAKER is no longer working and it is necessary for WHITAKER to stay with her constantly. He stated WHITAKER has had poor luck in trying to secure a position, because his reputation has always preceded him. He mentioned that for the past year WHITAKER, who was once a lawyer, has been investigating the matter of his, HEMARTY's, father's will; that his father died in Newburyport, Mass., about a year ago, leaving over \$100,000 to HEGARTY's brother, and HEGARTY has had WHITAKER go to Newburyport several times for him.

HEGARTY also disclosed that after WHITAKER's release from prison the last time he had been given a car by Governor HOFFMAN of New Jersey and some expense money to look for the money which the late GASTON B. MEANS stole from Mrs. EVALIN WALSH MCLEAN and which is believed to have been hidden somewhere out west, and that WHITAKER looked for the money in about 1937.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent H. L. LISIE:

Dr. J. D. DANIAN, who resides and has his office in the Kew Gardens Apartments, 2700 que St., N. W., advised that he first met WHITAKER about seven years ago when the latter brought Mrs. WHITAKER to his office for treatment. He stated he had been treating Mrs. WHITAKER prior to this time but had never met the applicant because he had not yet beer released from prison. He added that the only time he saw WHITAKER was when the latter came to his office with Mrs. WHITAKER, which was a total of ten or twelve times. Upon inquiry as to why he believed applicant to be eligible or worthy for restoration of his civil rights, the doctor replied that he knew of no particular reason why WHITAKER'S rights should be restored, but, on the other hand, he knew of no serious reason why his rights should be denied. He stated he considers WHITAKER a former smailtime crook who never had the ability or never to get into big-time crime. Dr. DANIAN is also definitely of the opinion that applicant is a psychopathic personality. He explained that by this he does not mean the applicant is insane, but means that he is not well balanced mentally and inclined to be unstable. He further advised that Mrs. WHITAKER is neurotic and hinted that she might be addicted to the use of morphine as a result of her real or imaginary ailments. He stated he had understood from her that she was considering divorcing WHITAXER because she was getting tired of supporting him.

Dr. DAMIAN summed up his statements with a remark to the effect that he does not know of any infractions of the law committed by applicant since he was released; that, however, beyond knowing nothing derogatory concerning the applicant, he knows nothing particularly good about him. He stated that WHITAMER's wife became dissetisfied with his treatments about six months ago and started going to another doctor; that he was glad to get rid of the case because of the neurotic tendencies of the patient.

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ET. OSCAR A. BERGHER, an Assistant Solicitor of the Department of Interior, C Street between 18th and 19th Streets, N. W., advised that he first met MHITAKER early in 1937 when Mrs. WHITAKER invited him ever to their home for dinner; that at this time Mrs. WHITAKER was employed at the Department of Interior, where he, HERGREN, had met her. He stated that since that accasion he has seen the applicant at least twice each week, and that he believes he knows more about the MHITAKERS than anyone else. Mr. HERGREN informed that applicant's wife is not working at this time, but that she is still on the pay roll of the Interior Department, in that she is using her accrued annual and sick leave. According to HERGREN, the applicant has not been employed since he was released from prison; that he may have in some isolated cases done bits of legal work for practicing attorneys, but that his earned income has been negligible. He further stated that applicant spends his spare time reading and puttering about his home. Mr. HERGREN informed that Mrs. WHITAKER has not worked since June, 1942, and that she is considering going to live with her sister when her salary stops.

as Mr. BERGEEN knows, is remarkably free from the common vices. Then asked if he considered the applicant to be mentally stable, HERMEN said he was so far as he could tell. He explained, however, that because in applicant's early life everything had been made easy for him, it was difficult for him to adjust himself to being unemployed and not sought after. HERCHEN mentioned that the applicant was once a topflight chess player and as such acquired many acquaintances and friends. Mr. HERCHEN did not seem to know anything about specific instances of the applicant's attempting to secure positions, but he stated HHITAKER had difficulty getting a job because of his prison record. It was Mr. HERCHEN's opinion that there might be some chance for the applicant to get a job if his rights were restored.

when asked what his reason was for believing that the applicant's rights should be restored, he stated he thought it would be a great help to the applicant and his wife in the predicament they are in. In other words, he based his opinion upon sympathy, especially for WHITAKER's wife, rather than upon any meritorious action on the part of applicant. He stated he did not know of any irregular acts having been committed by WHITAKER since his release, or activities of a questionable character which he might have indulged in since his release.

MEIGHBORHOOD

Mr. BRUCE ALEXANDER, who resides in an apartment at 505 18th Street, N. W., and who is employed as an architect by the Navy Department, advised that he knows MHITAKER only casually, in that he sees him in the halls of the apartment house. He mentioned that, other than the MHITAKERS, he is the oldest tenant in the building, and that he is probably the only tenant who is at all acquainted with them.

The Agent was able to learn through careful questioning that Mr. ALEXANDER knows nothing of the applicant's criminal record and, in fact, does not even know the applicant has served time. Apparently there is little fraternizing in the apartment building where the applicant lives, and, therefore, no further neighborhood investigation was conducted. Mr. AIRYANDER did know that the applicant apparently was not employed and that his wife had been quite ill and worked at the Department of Interior when she was able to. He intimated that there had been considerable idle gossip around the building concerning the fact that WHITAKER apparently did not work, but he stated he felt there was nothing to the gossip. Beyond these facts, Mr. ALEXANDER was unable to shed any light on the activities of the applicant. Mrs. S. R. KAPLAN, Cafritz Company, 1404 h St., N. W., reviewed the records of the company relative to the applicant's residence at 907 Park Central Apartments, 1900 F St., N. W., and stated the records reflected that the applicant's wife was living at this address when WHITAKER was released from prison, having taken up residence there in Jamuary, 1935, and lived there until September 18, 1939, at which time action was taken to regain possession by the owners for nonpayment of rent and, as a result, applicant and his wife were required to move. At the time they left this address they were still owing \$118 rent, and this amount is still owed at this time. Miss M. H. BYERS, Secretary-Treasurer, Phillips Properties, Inc., owners of the apartment building in which applicant and his wife new live, produced the records which reflected that the MHITAKERS have always been prompt in payment of rent and are not delinquent in any manner at the present time. Miss BYERS was not aware of the record of applicant and Agent did not disclose any such information to her. Miss BYENS further stated there had never been any complaints of any kind concerning the WHITAKERS and that they had proved to be very satisfactory tenants. The above investigation covers all addresses of applicant since he was released from prison. CREDIT RECORD AND INFORMATION The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent RICHARD SIAN: The records of the Credit Bureau, 1419 H St., N. W., contain a great deal of information relative to the applicant, including newspaper clippings concerning the MEANS case and MHITAMER's consection. In the years preceding 1932, According to the records, WHITAKER had been sued approximately 150 times in debt actions, but since that time his credit record appears to be all right. There was a landlord and tenant action against him in September, 1939, brought for possession of 907 Fark Central Apartments, 1900 F St., N. W., by the Cafritz Company. The

record reflects that from September, 1937, until late in 1939, WHITAKER and his wife resided at the above address, the Park Central Apartments. Since then and at present he is residing at 505 18th St., N. W. The records gave this brief background:

From 1909 to 1914, WHITAKER was employed by the United States Patent Office, Department of Commerce, 14th st. and Constitution Ave., N. W., as an Examiner, compensated at 31,500 per year. After resigning from this position

During the past five years, according to the records, WHITAMER has sued various newspapers and individuals for libel. Some of these, briefly, are:

he engaged in the practice of law with offices in the Legal Building for a while and later at 922 F St., N. W. From 1923 to early in 1932 he had offices at 1006 F St., N. W., where he engaged in the practice of patent law with his

WITATE vs. Machington mily News for Libel, \$25,000; November, 1937

WHITAKER VS. ELEANOR MEDILL PATTERSON, 15 Dupont Circle, N. W., \$200,000; February, 1938

WHITHER vs. American Newspapers, Inc., judgment of dismissal; June, 1939

WHITHER vs. District News Company, suit dismissed; June, 1937

brother MIAND.

WHITAKER vs. EVALYN WALSH McIEAN, verdict for defendant; December, 1939

None of these suits was successful. All were in the District of Columbia courts. Several other unsuccessful suits were noted.

The records of the Credit Bureau, 1221 G St., N. W., contained the following additional information:

The Resident Manager at 505 18th St., N. W., Mrs. ÆYMOUR PRICE, stated in a letter to the Credit Bureau, September, 1939, that the WHITAKERS had always paid their rent promptly.

CRIMINAL RECORD

A check of the files of the Criminal Identification Division of the Metropolitan folice Department failed to reflect any arrests of applicant or any complaints lodged against him since 1932. The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent CHARLES F. SELFRIDGE, JR.:

A check of the Traffic Violations of the Metropolitan Police Department reflected that NORMAN T. WHITAKER has been warned on several occasions since 1936 for minor traffic violations.

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION AT NEW YORK CITY, at 18 Gramercy Park, will contact EVELYN CLAY in connection with an affidavit of character made by her in connecwith an Application to Restore Civil Rights made by MORKAN T. WHITAKER in September, 1939, which affidavit accompanied WHITAKER's application at that time. WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION AT WASHINGTON, D. C., will await receipt of criminal record from the Bureau and report same.

Will interview the applicant concerning his Application for Pardon to Restore Civil Rights.

Federal Bureau of Investigation United States Department of Sustice

Washington, D. C.

August 13, 1942

Director Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, D. C.

> RE: NORMAN T. WHITAKER, Was. RESTORATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS

Dear Sir:

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Kindly furnish the known criminal record of the following:

City, Police Number.

Approximate date Fingerprints forwarded Arrest, or Other Federal Bureau of In- Classificavestigation.

Fingerprint tion.

NORMAN T. WHITAKER,

Name (inc. aliases)

FBI # 248508 1

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Very truly yours,

Special Agent in Charge